

cardia with 2:1 conduction, premature beats, etc. was discussed.

The book will appeal to those who are interested in the historical development of arrhythmias and conduction disturbances involving the atrioventricular node, but will be of limited value to clinicians who desire a greater clinical approach.

MAURICE SOKOLOW, M.D.

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MYTHS OF MADNESS—New Facts for Old Fallacies—Don D. Jackson, M.D. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1964. 178 pages, \$4.50.

"Myths of Madness" appears to have been written by Doctor Jackson primarily for the public that has most certainly been confused by the barrage of misleading scientific information which is designed to explain why people have emotional or mental difficulties. Dr. Jackson emphasizes such things as "very, very few people are born crazy" and that few of them are diagnosed by the laboratory tests which are so traditional for physical disorders. He reviews some of the work that is being done in the Behavioral Sciences and emphasizes the impact of culture, environment, and in particular, the family.

Along with other books which are written for public consumption, there are some over simplifications which are in the service of making a point. Most physicians would find the book elementary but if they were familiar with its contents they might have occasion to recommend the book to some of their patients who wanted "something authoritative" to relieve their anxieties.

NORMAN Q. BRILL, M.D.

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ANXIETY AND TENSION CONTROL—A Physiologic Approach—Edmund Jacobson, M.D., LL.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.P., Director, Laboratory for Clinical Physiology, Chicago, and the Jacobson Clinic; formerly Research Associate, Assistant Professor of Physiology (1926-1936), University of Chicago; formerly Associate Attending Physician (Medicine), Michael Reese Hospital. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pa., 1964. 216 pages, plus 32 pages of a manual—Self-Operations Control, \$9.00.

Dr. Jacobson's new book, by his own admission, is an attempt to modernize his well-known work "Progressive Relaxation" published originally in 1929 and revised in 1938. The "modernization" has consisted of an effort to gild the same hypotheses and contentions with a coating of pseudo-scientific jargon from medical electronics. The dust cover claims that the book "demonstrates how you can help your patients minimize their tensions," and, as noted, Dr. Jacobson describes this as a "physiological approach." Also, the method is "workable," "based on years of laboratory investigation," and "is a simple self-help technique for both patient and physician." It refers to Dr. Jacobson's description as being "in language that is at all times clear and direct." Beneath the dust cover one finds language which is vague and ambiguous. The objectivity referred to seems appallingly absent. For example, in a bibliography on electrical measurement of nervous and muscular states, the author quotes 9 references of his own, ignoring all other investigators, including such sound basic work as that by Duffy and Malmlo.

There are three parts to the book. An introductory section which attempts to offer a rationale for a technique of muscular relaxation which, according to the author, should cure all ills both of patient and physician. The second section is a straightforward, clearly written, well illustrated description of Dr. Jacobson's technique of "anxiety and tension control." The third section is a group of brief case reports which are noteworthy for their lack of objectivity

and precision. They attempt to serve the purpose, I assume, of substantiating the author's claim for the effectiveness of his technique. In this effort, also, the author falls far short of his goals.

Dr. Jacobson's technique of muscular relaxation is essentially an interesting attempt to deal with the problem of anxious and tense patients. Clearly, any contribution to the solution of their problems would be welcome. Unfortunately, the book does not offer the physician or patient much that is tangible, scientific, or convincing.

JOSHUA S. GOLDEN, M.D.

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FUNDAMENTAL AIDS IN ROENTGEN DIAGNOSIS—Emphasizing Spot Filming and Fluoroscopy—Charles B. Storch, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor, New York University—Cineradiology, Radiology, Cleft Palate Research; Director, Radiology Department, Lefferts General Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Associate Attending Radiologist, Brookdale Medical Center, Brooklyn, N.Y. Grune & Stratton, Inc., New York and London, 1964. 370 pages, \$14.75.

This book fulfills a need in offering an organized introduction to fluoroscopy, spot filming, and general radiologic examination of the chest and abdomen. It is well written and illustrated. It is quite logically organized and its table of contents and bibliography are fairly comprehensive. If the book is evaluated only for what it is meant to be—an introduction into the art of fluoroscopy for a beginner, it is fulfilling its function admirably. It is not to be taken, however, as a text from which to study disease or gather information about it. The book does have many voids and a few misleading generalizations about diagnostic signs of congenital heart disease for instance that are understandable in the context of the first introduction, but are not to form the basis for studying congenital heart disease for instance after the initiation is completed.

Some objections and criticisms can be raised that the book does not provide enough information and guidance about the use of image intensified fluoroscopy or cineradiography. As these tools are more and more widely used and are part of the radiologic examination of the areas covered by this book, more mention and more coverage would have been advantageous. A further criticism may be that many readers may find it somewhat offensive and disappointing to have much of the material organized as questions and answers, somewhat reminiscent of grade school. Staging some examinations, as for instance the fluoroscopic examinations of the heart and stomach, into stages and positions by numbers may also be a rigid approach that even modern cookbooks attempt to avoid.

In spite of these shortcomings, the book has a function and is a good introduction to fluoroscopy.

ALEXANDER R. MARGULIS, M.D.

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TEXTBOOK OF UROLOGY—Second Edition—Victor F. Marshall, M.D., F.A.C.S., Clinical Professor of Surgery (Urology), Cornell University Medical College; Attending Surgeon-in-Charge, Urology, James Buchanan Brady Foundation of The New York Hospital; and Associate Attending Urologist, The Memorial Sloan-Kettering Center for Cancer, New York City. Hoeber Medical Division, Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., New York, Evanston, and London, 1964. 355 pages, \$8.50.

This new, bright edition of Marshall's classic text will be welcomed by medical students and physicians alike as an authoritative source of all that is important in the field of urology. The chapter on urinary infections in children is particularly timely.

The whole book is well illustrated and readable, and well worth the money.